

CONFIDENTIAL

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22 March 1951

The Honorable Luther E. Evans
Librarian of Congress
Library of Congress
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Evans:

This is in regard to your letter of February 21, concerning the exchange of library materials with the Soviet Union. We have examined the matter of the imposition at this time of an embargo on publicly available technical data in order to curtail or impede the flow of this material to the Soviet orbit. Our conclusion is in keeping with yours, that the disadvantages of such an action under present conditions would greatly outweigh the advantages. We feel that at present it would be futile on our part to impose such an embargo, and that the consequences in all likelihood would be a serious stoppage of the published material we are now obtaining from [redacted]

In view of our vital interest in any such move a letter has been written the Secretary of Commerce expressing our views and position. A copy of this letter is enclosed.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

WALTER B. SMITH
Director

Enclosure

OCD:JWM:JMA:rmb - 15 March 1951

retyped for change of signature O/DCI - amk

retyped for change of wording O/DCI LBK:mlk

Distr: Orig & 1 - Addressee

2 - Signer✓

1 - AD/CD

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1 Approved For Release 2003/05/05 : CIA-RDP80B01676R001000150007-0

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